

## Valley Springs Community Plan update Pre-Grant Timeline

- 1974** “Valley Springs Community Area General Plan...1974 to 1994”
- 1992-93** Valley Springs citizens and Supervisor Dick Gordon initiate a Valley Springs Community Plan (VSCP) update and community survey; plan update never completed.
- 2005** MyValleySprings.com (MVS), a community-based non-profit organization, is formed, and starts a website to provide education and information and to increase public participation in local planning. **MVS begins advocating for an update to the Valley Springs Community Plan (VSCP).**
- 10.25.05 Calaveras Enterprise-Letter by MVS ‘Stand up and speak out in Valley Springs’  
10.28.05 Calav. Enterpr.-Guest Opinion by MVS ‘Valley Springs demands good planning’  
11.1.05 Calav. Enterpr.-Letter by MVS ‘Valley ‘discovery’ may be its doom’  
11.25.05 Calav. Enterpr.-Letter by MVS ‘Valley Springs can decide its own future’  
11.29.05 Calav. Enterpr.- Letter by MVS ‘Community should review Valley Springs plan’  
12.2.05 Valley Springs News- Letter by MVS ‘Concerned about new development’  
12.27.05 Calav. Enterpr.- Opinion by MVS ‘Area’s growth must be tied to water supply’.
- 2006** MVS continues to advocate for an update of the Valley Springs Community Plan; compiles ideas from community members and smart growth principles and **publishes draft Valley Springs Community Goals** to encourage discussions on visioning and updating the Valley Springs Community Plan; **publishes a map of ‘Valley Springs Area Residential Planned Developments’** in northwest county area
- 1.2.06 MVS Press Release: new community group & website, community issues & dialogue  
1.3.06 Stockton Record ‘Town politics clash online’, new web site by advocacy group  
1.5.06 Copperonline—announcement ‘MyValleySprings.com announces new community action group and website’. 30-year old community plan needs to be re-written.  
1.06.06 Calaveras Enterprise ‘New Internet Web Sites emerge to serve Valley Springs area’. MVS.com site launched, want planning for growth and update of community plan.  
1.09.06 Union Democrat-‘Web sites focus on Valley Springs’, focus on comm. plan update  
1.11.06 Valley Springs News- ‘New web site draws reaction with photo, content.’  
1.18.06 VS News- ‘New web site has awakened a giant’ letter from Valley Springs resident.  
2.10.06 VS News-MVS Letter ‘People not best stewards of land’ (need for new comm. plan)  
2.17.06 Calaveras Enterprise- MVS Letter “Moratorium, plan review are needed”  
4.00.06 **Public Announcement –Draft Valley Springs Community Goals**, 1,000+ flyers distributed in VS News. MVS.  
4.5.06 VS News-MVS Letter ‘Tourism is area’s growth industry’  
4.11.06 Calaveras Enterprise- MVS letter ‘Scrap runaway growth, focus on tourism’.  
5.3.06 VS News-MVS Letter ‘No ‘quid pro quo’ on community plan’  
5.23.06 Motherlode.com- ‘Community groups join forces’. MVS joins Calaveras Planning Coalition.  
5.24.06 Union Democrat ‘Coalition takes on planning in county’, includes MVS reference

- Spring 06 Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch Newsletter- ‘The Birth of an Activist’ featuring MVS member and need to focus on Valley Springs Community Plan.
- 10.20.06 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Calaveras County at a crossroads today’-Opinion by Community Action Project & Calaveras Planning Coalition, advocating for public participation and GP & community plan updates.
- 10.25.06 Valley Springs News- ‘County begins to move forward on General Plan update.’ MVS asked how the county would deal with new developments during update.
- 10.31.06 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Ponte Ranch project submitted to county’. MVS development map with proposed projects quoted. Discussion whether developers or citizens plan community; **reported County is holding projects until community plan is done.**
- 10.31.06 **Public Announcement -- ‘To the People of Valley Springs Regarding Community Planning’** & map ‘Valley Springs Area Residential Planned Developments’, 1000+ flyers distributed in VS News, MVS; advocates for community plan update concurrent with General Plan update, public participation, community areas, adequate infrastructure
- 11.26.06 Union Democrat- ‘Review starts for massive V.S. project’. MVS concern about developers writing unofficial community plan and educating the public on planning.
- 12.05.06 Union Democrat- ‘New development on hold’. MVS quoted regarding agreeing the county had no choice but to delay projects until General Plan update completed.
- 12.06.06 Valley Springs News- ‘County puts breaks on new projects- Urgency Ordinance.’ MVS members quoted regarding planning & outdated land use policies and outdated community plan.

**2007** MVS hosts three educational, community-wide meetings: 1) Community Design, 2) Regional Transportation Planning, and 3) Water and Land Use.

**MVS contracts with the Local Government Commission (LGC) to present a Community Design Workshop & releases the ‘VS Community Design Workshop Report’** (subsequently presented to the Board of Supervisors and the Planning Dept). In the report, **MVS publishes its intention to pursue a Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) Grant to update the VSCP.**

In cooperation with the local UC Ag Extension office, through UC-ANR, **MVS applies for funding for a graduate student intern to complete a VSCP baseline report.**

- 1.17.07 Union Democrat- ‘Rezoning moratorium extended’. MVS members made comments at Board of Supervisors meeting and presented 9-29-06 ‘Valley Springs Area Residential Planned Developments’ map to Board.
- 2.10.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ¼ page ad for meeting planned by MVS, The Foothill Conservancy, and supported by Calaveras Planning Coalition and Community Action Project titled ‘Community Design: An Overview of Smart Growth Options for Rural Communities’ featuring Paul Zykovsky of LGC on Feb. 28, 07.
- 2.20.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Speakers to address rural growth issues’.
- 2.21.07 VS News—front page article ‘Feb. 28 meeting set to outline community planning options’ & distributed 1,000+ flyers for ‘Special Town Meeting-Community Design’
- 2.23.07 Calaveras Enterprise ¼ page ad re. Valley Springs ‘Special Town Meeting’

- 2.25.07 Stockton Record article 'Experts to talk housing growth' Valley Springs meeting
- 2.28.07 **Town Meeting** "Community Design: An Overview of Smart Growth Options for Rural Communities" held at Valley Springs Elementary, Paul Zykovsky speaker
- 3.02.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Land use 101- Class in session.' Account of successful meeting involving all facets of community.
- 3.02.07 VS News- 'Valley Springs gets lessons in smart growth.' Good detail on meeting.
- 3.05.07 Union Democrat- 'Smart Growth' policies debated re. VS public meeting
- 3.06.07 'Calaveras Enterprise- 'Planning is about managing the future.' Editor Buzz Eggleston editorial about MVS smart growth meeting.
- 4.4.07 VS News article 'Upcoming forum to spotlight transportation planning issue
- 4.6.07 Valley Springs News—distributes 1,000+ flyers for "Special Town Meeting: Understanding CCOG: A Look at Regional Transportation Planning"
- 4.06.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Rezoning approved in Burson.' MVS members commented on cumulative impacts, water availability, oak tree preservation, traffic, growth inducing development.
- 4.10.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Oak preservation policy challenged'. Noted MVS April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting in Valley Springs on transportation and roads.
- 4.10.07 MVS announces Valley Springs Town Meeting about Transportation Planning at Board of Supervisors, invites the Board, and gives Supervisors information packets
- 4.12.07 **Town Meeting** "Understanding the CCOG: A Look at Regional Transportation Planning" held at Valley Springs Elementary, speaker Tim McSorley from CCOG
- 4.17.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Town Hall meeting on transportation and roads.' MVS and Foothill Conservancy meeting. Tim McSorley, COG Executive Director gave overview of road funding and UC Davis Uplan program being used for General Plan update process.
- 4.25.07 Union Democrat- 'Residents: No growth until plan is done.' MVS member quoted, "Plans before projects."
- 5.04.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'What's wrong in Calaveras County?' First in a series of workshops for General Plan update. MVS member quoted- concern of approved projects being made known to General Plan consultant and lack of long range planning.
- 5.18.07 VS News-distributes 1,000+ flyers for "Water and Land Use Planning:"
- 5.18.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'General Plan issues on tap around county.' MVS, Foothill Conservancy meeting on "Water & Land Use Planning: Making the Connection."
- 5.21.07 MVS President invites LAFCO commissioners to Water/Land Use meeting in VS
- 5.23.07 **Town Meeting** "Water & Land Use Planning" held at Valley Springs Elementary, Speakers Clark Anderson, LGC and Timothy Lawrence from UC Davis Extension Center for Water& Land Use. 'Valley Springs Community Goals' handout.
- 5.25.07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Gathering studies area water uses, needs.' Discussion of watershed, water use, protecting environment in an economically feasible ways.
- 6.15.07 VS News distributes 1,000+ flyers by MVS for General Plan Update Community Workshop in Valley Springs
- 6.27.07 Valley Springs News- 'Non-profit tax status for MyValleySprings.com.' Article discusses future MVS plans.
- 7.26-07 Calaveras Enterprise- 'General Plan road show finished first tour.' Account of Rancho and Valley Springs meetings. "*I don't think I've ever been involved in a county general plan update where people are more informed, more involved and more vocal about what they want to see happen to their community,*" said Larry

- Mintier, a consultant working on the project. “People here are passionate about these local planning issues.”
- 8.21.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Valley Springs non-profit to give ‘smart growth’ a boost.’ More public education on planning.
  - 8.24.07 Valley Springs News- ‘Board limits support for plan updates.’ First mention of possibility of grant for Valley Springs Community Plan.
  - 9.05.07 Valley Springs News- MVS Letter ‘MyValleySprings.com seeks growth plan.’ .
  - 10.16.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Planning Workshop set in Valley Springs. MVS press release.
  - 10.17.07 Valley Springs News- ‘Future planning for Valley Springs to be topic of workshops.’ MVS press release.
  - 10.17.07 Valley Springs News distributes 1,000+ flyers for “Community Design Workshop”
  - 10.24.07 Valley Springs News distributes 1,000+ flyers for “Community Design Workshop”
  - 10.24.07 **Community Design Workshop Part 1** held at Valley Springs Elementary by LGC
  - 10.26.07 Valley Springs News- ‘Community workshop explores public’s values, concerns for the area.
  - 10.26.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Valley Springs looks toward the future.’ Account of first part of workshop.
  - 10.27.07 **Community Design Workshop Part 2, Walking Tour & Design Maps** held at Valley Springs Elementary and downtown Valley Springs, led by LGC
  - 10.30.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘A walk into the future- Groups tour Valley Springs.’ Account of second day of community design workshop.
  - 10.31.07 Valley Springs News- ‘Downtown Valley Springs gets makeover suggestions.
  - 11.02.07 Valley Springs News- MVS letter ‘Design workshops were beneficial.’ MVS overview of community design workshop.
  - 11.06.07 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Community Plans hit roadblock.’ Mention San Andreas Caltrans planning grant, which triggered MVS asking if there were opportunities for more planning grant funds.
  - 12.07 **VS Community Design Workshop Report** completed and posted on MVS website.

**2008** MVS co-authors & participates in applying for a Caltrans Community-Based Transportation Planning (CBTP) Grant for ‘Rural Smart Growth: A Community-based Plan for Valley Springs’ through the Calaveras Council of Governments (CCOG).

**MVS presents the ‘Valley Springs Community Design Workshop Report’ to the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors and Community Development Department.**

**MVS issues a VSCP update “call to action” to the community, which results in formation of the Greater Valley Springs Advisory Group (GVSAG), an ad hoc group of local citizens and stakeholders who begin work on a vision statement and the establishment of new community boundaries. GVSAG creates a website and posts draft Visions and Boundary alternative maps.**

**UC Davis graduate student intern is funded** and works with MVS and the GVSAG from January through June and **produces the report ‘From Community Plan to Community Vision: Progress Made and Recommendations for Future Action’**

**Valley Springs Area Business Association (VSABA) creates a Vision statement** for Valley Springs

**MVS co-hosts Public Meeting** “Conservation Strategies: An Overview of easements and the Williamson Act”

**Caltrans CBTP Grant awarded for Community Plan**, Project Partners: Calaveras County Community Development Agency (Planning), CCOG, LGC, and MVS

**MVS sponsors free Public Film and Discussion**, “Where Do the Children Play?”

- 1.10.08 **CBTP grant application submitted to Caltrans**; MVS co-authors application.
- 1.15.08 **MVS presents ‘Valley Springs Community Design Workshop’ Report** to the Calaveras County Board of Supervisors and Community Development Department.
- 1.18.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Community group’s workshop results in.’ Public notice of results and discussion of the application by MVS to Caltrans for planning grant.
- 2.12.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Community group meeting set.’ **MVS calls public meeting to gauge interest in beginning community plan update effort.**
- 2.13.08 Valley Springs News- ‘MyValleySprings.com seeks input on community plan update.’
- 2.15.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Critics fault new general plan report, baselines land-use maps contain flawed, dated data.’ MVS members quoted.
- 2.22.08 Valley Springs News- ‘**Community plan meeting attracts controversy. Who is a resident of Valley Springs?**’
- 2.22.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘**Just who is a Valley Springs ‘resident’ anyway?**’
- 2.29.08 Valley Springs News- **MVS Letter ‘ID’ing Valley Springs will be group effort.’**
- 3.04.08 Calaveras Enterprise- Public Notice about 2<sup>nd</sup> public meeting re: community plan.
- 3.04.08 Calaveras Enterprise- **MVS Letter -‘Who is a citizen of Valley Springs?’**
- 3.07.08 Valley Springs News- ‘Greater Valley Springs Advisory Group to work on plan.’ **GVSAG forms.**
- 3.07.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘New Valley Springs group forms.’ GVSAG forms.
- 4.01.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Valley Springs pursues a future.’ Detailed account of formation of GVSAG.
- 4.22.08 Calaveras Enterprise- ‘Valley Springs group meets Thursday.’ (April 25, 2008)
- 4.23.08 Valley Springs News- ‘**Group launches web site to help facilitate area’s visioning process.’ GVSAG web site announcement.**
- 5.02.08 Valley Springs News- ‘Group moves forward on creating community visions.’ GVSAG announced co-chairs and requested donations to fund effort.
- 5.11.08 Stockton Record- ‘**Little consensus on where to draw Valley Springs boundaries.**’ Details early boundary discussion.
- 5.16.08 Valley Springs News- ‘Group issues statement on incorporation and other concerns.’ GVSAG press release in response to questions and concerns from community.

- 5.16.08 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Valley Springs signal opposed. Residents ask for alternatives at intersection.' (came out of MVS workshops).
- 5.27.08 Calaveras Enterprise- 'General Plan Coordinator resigns.'
- 6.20.08 Valley Springs News- 'Group moves ahead with local vision.' GVSAG meeting notice.
- 7.09.08 Valley Springs News- 'New report outlines suggestions for General Plan update' **Graduate student intern Colleen Hiner from UC Davis presents 'Valley Springs Community Planning Baseline Report' to GVSAG** on June 26, 2008.
- 7.18.08 Valley Springs News- letter- 'MVS.com wants growth done right.'
- 8.12.08 Calaveras Enterprise Advertisement for "Conservation Strategies" meeting in VS
- 8.08.08 Valley Springs News- 'Land Conservation workshop Aug. 16 in Valley Springs'
- 8.12.08 Calaveras Enterprise- 'Valley Springs shopping center wins planning nod.' MVS members comment along with Caltrans and COG, concern about roads & planning.
- 8.13.08 Valley Springs News- 'Planning panel OKs center despite Caltrans' objections.'
- 8.16.08 **Public Meeting** "Conservation Strategies: An Overview of easements and the Williamson Act" held at Valley Springs Elementary, co-sponsored by Mother Lode Land Trust, Foothill Conservancy, and MyValleySprings.com
- 9.05.08 Flyer for GVSAG public meeting Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>.
- 9.05.09 Calaveras Enterprise- MVS Letter 'Planning lags while building continues.'
- 9.08.08 The Pine Tree.net will now be offering Calaveras County Planning Commission Meeting Video for your viewing pleasure.' MVS.com begins funding taping and broadcasting of all PC meetings so the public can learn about the planning process.
- 9.9.08 **CCOG announces successful grant application from Caltrans for CBTP Grant for 'Rural Smart Growth: A Community-based Plan for Valley Springs'**. The grant award from Caltrans is \$204, 648 with a match from COG of \$51,162 for a total of \$255,810. Funding is not anticipated prior to January 2009. The grant is intended to produce a community planning document consistent with the Calaveras County General Plan and the California Environmental Quality Act. The CCOG will administer the project and funds.
- 10.23.08 MVS Press Release, sponsoring free showing of new documentary film, "Where Do the Children Play?" at Jenny Lind Elementary School.
- 11.5.08 **Public film presentation and discussion**, "Where Do the Children Play?", discussion about safe places for unstructured outdoor play, facilitated by Karen Pekarcik, Executive Director of First 5 Calaveras

[updated 1-20-10]